

## THE NATIONAL FORUM

VOL. I. NO. 11.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1910.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

## VANITY FAIR

CONDUCTED BY JOHN H. WILLS.

## AMERICANS AND THEIR MANNERS.

An English novelist, writing under the name of "Rita," who had gained a high degree of fame before the day of the "best sellers," visited New York and Washington a short time ago and brought with her from dear old London a strictly English point of view. She could find no one who was "truly American with American ancestry, racial instincts and habits," none, but conglomerates and hybrids in manners and ideals, as well as birth.

She found us with base, low points of view, given to worship of gods and tinseled, with garish display worshiped as a fetish and advertising the be all and end all of life, to which Nature, art, morals and health are ruthlessly sacrificed. And manners! Manners is unthought of, undreamed of—there is no such thing in America.

I can recall ever in my small day when good manners were considered a very important thing. That time is fading fast away, and if there is a place in this world where people have worse manners, I hope never to see it.

## AMERICA FROM ANOTHER VIEW-POINT.

Another English traveler saw us thus: "In all my wildest dreams for the race I had never foreseen such wealth, such freedom, such equality. America is the land of the common people, as England is the land of the classes. Better than the boundless wealth of America, better than any material benefit she can give is this sense of mankind and equality that is all pervading as the air."

Friend, do you realize this, or do you doubt and falter? It is true for you and for all of our people who will strive for the fullness of life.

This is how Joseph Burtt, of London, sees us, and speaking further says: "America is producing a new type of woman, who has the learning of the blue stocking, but who has lost nothing of her tenderness, and combined with a wide intellectual outlook and true womanliness, she has the passion for righteousness."

Many, very many of these noble women are our mothers, sisters, friends and neighbors, and we must not let behind the ideals they express in their life and the aspirations they daily strive to attain.

## JACK JOHNSON.

Now that it is all over we can calm down and forget it. To me it has been a settled fact for six years that Johnson was the superior man, and when in this column, June 11th, I logically presented the "reason for the faith that was in me," why Johnson was superior, I was greeted with derision. I got the "hoarse hoot" from men who do not believe a colored man can do anything good or great because he is not of the same race as they are themselves. Let me live in the hope that this class of colored men can learn things.

## JAMES J. JEFFRIES SPEAKS.

I tried. That's all I ask credit for. I was beaten fairly and squarely. I have no excuses of any kind to make. Let full credit be given Jack Johnson for his victory. He is truly a great fighter.

I would have remained the retired and undefeated heavyweight champion of the world but for the fact that the American public demanded of me that I try to take away the championship from a black man.

I don't regret the fact of my defeat so much as I do that it was a negro who beat me, thereby establishing himself as the best man in the world. I would rather have been beaten three times over by a man of my own race than to have been the means of placing a negro in the position. It was to tear Johnson away from this honor that I consented to fight. I shot at the mark, but missed it. There is nothing left to do but to congratulate the winner.

The color line should be drawn outside the ring. It cannot be dragged inside the ropes. When the men fight, one for battle, one of them must not be discriminated against because his skin is black. Keep him out of the ring entirely or give him fair play. I took a chance at winning the greatest honors that could have been the means of placing a negro in the position. It was to tear Johnson away from this honor that I consented to fight. I shot at the mark, but missed it. There is nothing left to do but to congratulate the winner.

Had Jeffries recognized the evident truth six years ago that Johnson was right in line for a match he would have had a greater chance of not being defeated, more sympathy and a fair place in public estimation. He must draw the color line, a sign of fear and the trick of a coward.

Fair minded men of whatever race or nation will look at the matter in about this way:

"RAISED RACE ISSUE." Jeffries advertised himself in his stereotyped stage speeches as the 'champion of the white race,' announced that his only purpose in re-entering the ring was to re-establish Caucasian supremacy in pugilism. He prematurely foisted the race issue, which resulted in riots yesterday, largely precipitated by white men and boys who went out of their way to attack negroes. He stirred up needless animosity between the white and the blacks, and was aided and abetted by a number of light-headed newspaper writers, who were incessantly demanding that he leave his farm and 'uphold the supremacy of the white race.'

It was an heroic attitude. It was the one of the most effective spotlight doses ever adopted. And what did it do after the talking?—The Washington Times.

## THE RACE ISSUE.

It is unfortunately true that the public press of these United States seems to go far and fast to drag in the race question and color difference and in this particular instance their persistence has shown a wicked wit and gift that pervaded all points of view. Now they are huck-pedding, so to speak. How's this?

"Self-respecting colored citizens will do their best to give the unwelcome of regarding the victory of Johnson at Reno as conferring any honor upon their race. They must realize that it is a discredit rather than a matter of congratulation that one of their number has proved himself the greater brute in the professional prize ring. Their people are on

the upward plane of civilization, seeking and attaining in commendable measure the advantages of education and industrial training. It should be humiliating to them that the discredited profession of pugilism today finds its most highly developed exponent in one of their number."—The Evening Star.

Two noble exponents of the fist art met "in the fifties" for a great battle and the unconscious exemplars of the old law of the right of might. One was an American, the other an Englishman. Now look at this:

Colored clergymen in Washington yesterday afternoon were praying long and earnestly that the Almighty would give strength to the arm and weight to the leg of Mr. John Arthur Johnson, then engaged in fighting the battle of freedom, progress and uplift in his race. In the great Heenan-Sayers fight of fifty years ago two great Christian nations recognized that their prestige was at stake, but we believe there never was a fight till yesterday's which was prayed over as an agency for the elevation of a race.—Philadelphia Record.

This fight happened about the time of "Forty-five, Fifty or Fight," when the Jingoism, of England, and the braggarts, of "the greatest nation in all creation" were talking war. Now as to the preacher who prayed, he is the creature of a degenerate day, for none who pause to think would select Jack Johnson as an embodiment of the spirit of the "meek and lowly Jesus."

There are all sides to everything and a bright side to this fight question as the following shows:

Gadzooks! It makes me sick to think of all the wealth I might have won; I might have banknotes by the peck

And gold and silver by the ton

Today if I had had the nerve

To talk to Johnson "dope" alone.

I might have owned this blooming town!

Had I but known! Had I but known!

If I were only half as wise

As some of these I-told-you-so's,

I'd buy this day a handsome yacht,

Also two dozen suits of clothes;

I'd take a trip to Europe, too.

And forty friends I'd take along—

But, ah, alas, I cannot sing

That tuncful old I-told-you song!

—J. B. N. in Washington Herald.

## THE RIOT ON THE AVENUE.

I saw most all of the rioting on the Avenue last Monday night, and had expected to write up that happening, but after looking over my notes I find that it will take about four pages to do justice to the subject, and I fear that would be tiresome in a weekly, such as ours. That reminds me, in conversation with a Greek friend of mine, he mentioned that there are two Greek daily papers published in New York and that there are about three hundred thousand Greeks in the United States. Do we need a Negro daily as badly as the Greeks need a Greek daily? You ask, of course, why don't we make the Forum daily? Because, good friends, subscriptions, advertisement and money for the same, are as hard to get as the good black teeth of a hungry, grown, grizzly bear.

## SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

The Elks are making extensive preparations for their big meeting here in this month.

Mrs. Mamie L. A. White, who graduated from Howard University last year and is now in the city of New York, is spending some time in the city prior to her returning to West Virginia, where she will assume the duties of the school room.

Miss Mayme McGinnis, one of our popular young lady teachers in the public schools, is in her summer vacation at Atlantic City, New York, Chicago and Denver, Colorado.

Mr. E. B. Allen, of Charlottesville, Va., has been the guest of Mr. John Fossett, on Elm street, N. W. Mr. Allen is one of Charlottesville's most enterprising young men and is in command of large business interests in that city. His trip while partaking of a social nature was beneficial to him in a business way as it is understood that he is negotiating for some valuable real estate in this city.

Prof. Walter Dyson left this week for his summer vacation. He will spend part of it in Pennsylvania, from which State he will take up some post work in the University of Chicago.

Mr. C. P. Cuney, a graduate of Wilberforce and Howard Law Schools, was this year made trustee of his Alma Mater, Wilberforce University. Mr. Cuney is at present contemplating the active practice of his profession.

Rev. I. N. Ross has returned from Wilberforce and Atlanta, Ga. He went to Wilberforce where he was called on the account of his connection with that institution in the capacity of trustee and to Atlanta, Ga., to deliver the annual address before the State Grangers' Colored Association.

Prof. Logan has left for a northwest-ern university, where he will take post work during his vacation.

To their many friends, the death of Mrs. Wormley, wife of Mr. Clarence Wormley, comes with a sudden shock. Mrs. Wormley was a lovable character and there is no more popular young man in the city than her bereaved husband, Mr. Wormley. She leaves four small children. Mr. Wormley has the sympathy of his many friends, to this his sudden sorrow.

The I. O. O. F. St. Luke will give an excursion to Somerset Beach Thursday, July 14. Among the festivities of the day will be a grand open air meeting to discuss the 43rd annual session of the Grand Council of St. Luke, which will meet in Richmond, August 16th.

The Holy Swastika Club will give their first picnic of this year at Eurika Park, Monday, August 25, 1910.

The Coal Club, of Ebenezer M. E. Church, an organization which for 12

years has supplied the fuel for that Church will give their trolley ride to Laurel, Md., Thursday, August 4th. The club has great success with these trolley rides, having given them for six years four to Laurel, Md., and two to Tenleytown.

Mr. E. D. Nicol, of Sunderland, England, who is visiting America and Canada for business and pleasure, was in Washington last Sunday and attended services at Ebenezer M. E. Church and heard Rev. S. H. Browne, the pastor, deliver a most excellent sermon to the ladies of the H. H. of Ruth. Mr. Browne then invited Mr. Nicol to speak to the congregation, which he did in eloquent and appropriate manner. Mr. Nicol said that this was the first time he had had the pleasure of addressing an audience of colored people and he was much pleased by the attention and appreciation his remarks received, and would go home with many pleasant memories of this church and the people therein.

## ATLANTIC CITY

Though Atlantic City was honored with a large crowd of visitors for the Fourth, the day apparently was passed differently to those of former years, a quiet and stillness prevailed almost incessantly until 6 o'clock, the hour at which the returns of the Jeffries-Johnson battle were received.

It may be said for Atlantic City that in this part of Jersey there were no riots or uprisings. The people here are very fair and broad minded, willing to accept the truth and satisfied with Jeffries' own convictions that "his best man won, and won on his merits."

A crowd of 50,000 cheered Aviator G. Curtis, as he flew over all piers and down into Chelsea at 6:36 o'clock Tuesday night.

Prof. Geo. Wm. Cook, A. M. LL.D., of Howard, speaks tonight at the Union Baptist Literary, on "Our Needs."

Visitors in Atlantic City over the Fourth were: Mrs. Lillie Cole, Philadelphia; Mrs. Warfield, Philadelphia;

Mr. and Mrs. Ringold, Chester, Pa.; Geo. V. Walker, New York City; Miss Bertie Hart, Landover, Pa.; Mr. J. W. Scott, New York City; Editor Cris Perry, New York City.

Dr. James Weinbush, of this city, is spending a few days' vacation in Boston.

Mrs. Rebecca Hamilton, of Baltimore, the aunt of Dr. Newton Waters, died Saturday, June 25th.

The Zion A. M. E. Church is very beautiful since recent improvements.

Mrs. Course, of Arkansas avenue, is very ill.

## COMMENDED FOR HEROISM.

Rear Admiral Nicholson, Acting Secretary of the Navy, through the recommendation of Capt. Alfred Reynolds, has issued an order in commendation of Alexander Bias, of Annapolis, and T. L. Walker, of Philadelphia, two young colored men, stationed on the Receiving Ship Franklin, at the Norfolk Navy Yard, for the courage and alertness shown by them in rescuing from drowning, J. C. Lowery, a mess-mate, who became exhausted while swimming and sank twice. His cries attracted attention of other swimmers, but before any of them took action Walker and Bias plunged from the deck, clothes and all, and as he sank the third time, Walker dove under him and brought him up and Bias carried him to a nearby rowboat.

## OUR PENSIONERS.

Colonel W. P. Brownlow, secretary of the National Soldiers' Home, said at a dinner in Brownsville, Tenn.:

"They are great wags, the old soldiers in our Johnson City home. I heard one of them describe the other day a very fierce and famous action. Two hundred men had been pitted against 300, and after the fighting only sixty brave fellows—thirty on each side—remained alive."

"The old soldier passed solemnly."

"Of that sixty, boys," he said, "there only survive to-day—"

"Overcome, he blew his nose violently."

"There only survive to-day, by actual statistics, 417."—Louisville Times.

Savages and Talking Machines.

Bishop Stinger, whose field is far up in the ice fields of the Yukon, has many Indians in his diocese, and while entertaining them with a lecture had a talking machine as a part of the lecture equipment. This interested the aborigines mightily, and one chief, after listening to it in silence for awhile, marched up, placed his hand on the horn and in guttural tones said: "Ugh! Canned man!"—Boston Record.

The army of foreigners arriving on our shores during the last year reached a total of 751,786.

Homes for Colored PEOPLE

AT GRANT PARK ON THE HILL

In the District at 57th St., N. E.,

On the Columbia Electric Railway.

H. St. cars go direct to the property—See fare—30 minutes from 15th St. and N. Y. Ave.

Pure spring water, fine shade, churches, schools, etc.

Lots \$100 to \$200 on Easy Monthly Payments.

NO INTEREST; NO TAXES.

The Poor Men's Chance To Buy

A DESIRABLE HOME SITE

AT SMALL COST.

Grant Park Office,

Room 314, O'Quay Building,

N. W. Cor. 8th and G Streets, N. W.

## HOME FROM COLLEGE---BAG AND BAGGAGE



—Cartoon by G. Williams, in the Indianapolis News.

## BILLION DOLLARS SPENT, MORE OR LESS

Tawney Figures Only Money to Be Used Next Year---Congress Cut Outlay---Livingston Reckons All That Was Appropriated to Be Used Hereafter.

HOW LAWMAKERS SPENT MONEY.				
Bills.	1910.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
District of Columbia	\$10,699,531.49	\$10,698,000	—	\$901,531
Army	101,195,883.34	95,440,567	—	5,755,316
Fortifications	8,170,111.00	5,617,000	—	2,553,111
Agriculture	12,985,000.00	13,487,000	\$492,000	—
Deficiency	18,580,035.88	13,614,970	—	1,530,116
Indian	11,854,982.48	9,612,648	—	2,242,332
Diplomatic	3,613,861.67	4,116,081	502,120	—
Pensions	160,908,000.00	155,738,000	—	4,150,000
Military Academy	2,531,821.33	1,456,249	—	675,572
Rivers and Harbors	29,190,264.00	51,917,718	22,727,454	—
Postoffice	234,692,370.00	241,000,000	6,407,630	—
Legislative	32,097,048.00	34,000,000	1,902,952	—
Navy	136,935,199.05	139,350,854	2,415,655	—
Sundry Civil	177,842,109.34	117,408,970	—	5,935,140
Public Buildings	—	27,600,000	27,600,000	—
Lighthouse	—	1,358,550	1,358,550	—
Miscellaneous	—	1,327,176	1,327,176	—
Totals	\$882,943,131.53	\$916,104,419	\$62,469,958	\$27,396,006

Washington, D. C.—Democratic contention: Congress at the session just closed again passed the billion-dollar high-water mark.

Republican contention: Actual probable fixed charge against revenues during the fiscal year 1911, \$939,120,761.

Both parties agree: Appropriations for expenses of the Government made during the past session aggregated \$1,027,133,446.

These contentions epitomize the annual review of national appropriations and expenditures, made public by Chairman Tawney, of the Appropriations Committee of the House, and Representative Livingston, of Georgia, ranking Democratic member of that committee. Tawney's fixed charge statement is based on deductions from the aggregate of the appropriations which carry no appropriations: Panama Canal cost, which bond sales will pay for; the \$20,000,000 for reclamation projects, which an issue of indebtedness certificates will cover, and deficiency appropriations and miscellaneous acts for payment of claims and other special matters expending the present fiscal year instead of the next.

Tawney asserted that a summary of the constructive legislation of the first regular session of the Sixty-first Congress constitutes a record of accomplishment surpassing in importance any previous session in the history of Congress. Livingston denounced what he called a large increase on account of public expenditures, an increase of the public debt, "half a billion dollars, spent for militarism, and the treasury drained for Army and Navy."

Tawney said there was a substantial reduction in the current military expenses, while Livingston asserted that under the reclamation issue and naval appropriations "we have a policy that stands for interest bearing bonds issued against the humble homes of the settlers and the lavish handing out of millions upon tens of millions of dollars, raised by onerous taxation to satisfy the greed of shipbuilders and armor plate contractors, which an appropriation of \$10,000,000 is proposed."

A civil government for Alaska. Modification of the Sherman Anti-Trust act.

Codification of the postal laws and reorganization of the postal system. A plan for the retirement of civil service employees.

To expedite litigation in Federal courts. Beyond these there are many minor matters to come up for action. Among them are the Rockefeller foundation charter and a measure for the regulation of railroads and other common carriers.

To regulate the issue of stocks and bonds of transportation companies. The enactment of additional conservation measures, eight bills remaining without action.

To establish a bureau of public health. To encourage the study of agriculture and the mechanical arts, for

TELEPHONE TRUST FINED. Mississippi Company Convicted of Trying to Shut Off Competition.

Water Valley, Miss.—The Cumberland Telephone and Telegraph Company was found guilty of violating the State anti-trust law by Judge J. T. Blount in the Chancery Court, and a fine of \$175,000 was imposed.

The company was charged with entering into a contract with the Oxford Telephone Company in Marshall County to shut off competition.

FIVE KILLED, 11 HURT IN FIRE. Explosion of a Gas Tank Blows Roof From a Building.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Five men were killed and eleven injured, two of them fatally, by an explosion which first wrecked and then set fire to the saloon of Edward Bushay, five miles north of Minneapolis in the Anoka road. The identified dead are Eugene Hamlin, Edward Hammish and Chas. Sigelkow, all residents of Minneapolis. Two bodies remain unidentified.

## Vote For Your Favorite Elk

The most popular Elk chosen by the votes of their friends and admirers will receive a Diamond Elk Charm. It is a beauty. The Charm will be displayed in the window of Mr. Callisher, the Jeweler, 917 Penna. Ave., N. W. Go and see it.

Cut out this coupon, fill it out and mail it to us. Vote early and often. Extra copies of the Forum for sale at 609 F St., N. W., Room 203, or you can order from your news stand.

The presentation will be made during the Elk Convention, July 26, 27, 28, 29. Ten thousand Elks will be in this city attending this Convention.

Address National Forum, 609 F St., N. W.

## COUPON

THE MOST POPULAR ELK

I. B. P. O. E. O. W.

I cast this vote for

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

The most popular Elk will receive a Diamond Elk Charm.

## GLEANINGS

The man quick to make excuses, myses the Commoner, soon gets into the habit of making nothing else.

"De way money gits up an' gits," said Uncle Eben, in the Washington Star, "shows dat if dar is microbes on it none of 'em is lazy germs."

If Nicaraguans would provide a grandstand, charge a moderate admission and advertise their battles as sports, suggests the Philadelphia Ledger, they might get up some interest.

The International Poster Printer's Association says it will stop printing posters in which "ladies are shown in tights." Some persons say there never have been such posters, comments the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Says the Baltimore News: "The who plants a tree plants a hope," sang one of the sweetest of our minor singers. It is a lesson which cannot be too deeply impressed upon the minds of the rising generation.

When a Norwegian was introduced to our National Conference, recalls the Christian Register, he used words in the original meanings. He said, "I feel very much at home here, you are all so homely."

He was standing among his fellows, this lion of the salon of the Independent Artists, telling what art and life mean to him, when he was approached by a matter-of-fact citizen, who wanted to know, relates the Argonaut. "Can you tell me," he asked, looking straight into the eyes of the great man, "if these here durned pictures were done by real artists or just amateurs?"

One reason for the high level of operating expenses with the railroads, explains the New York Evening Post, is the necessity of filling the holes that were left by the drastic economies effected in the cost of maintenance when gross earnings collapsed in 1907 and 1908, and one reason for such economies in maintenance expenditures was that wages and dividends had been increased just before gross earnings collapsed.

There are 40,000 owners of automobiles in this city, reckons the New York Mail. Once a year some of them turn over their cars to the orphan asylums, who send their young charges to Coney Island for the day. When this was done the other day 364 cars were available, of which 182 or just half, were commercial vehicles—taxicabs, opera buses, sightseeing machines and motor trucks. Now, only a small part of the autos of the city are commercial vehicles. The inference is that business is more charitable than pleasure. Only one pleasure vehicle in every 200 was put at the disposal of the fatherless—which is not too many.

Only ten years ago, recollects the Columbus Ohio State Journal, the plan started down in Galveston simply as an emergency scheme, but it did its work so well that it was continued as a permanent form of government. Now there are seventeen cities in Texas having the commission plan and sixteen in Kansas. With its efficiency as a governing instrumentality is added the moral uplift of the community. Responsibility is centralized, popular interest aroused and bossism and dirty politics are driven out. Ohio has none of this commission plan of government. The state ought to be covered with it. The longer the people do without it, the longer they are imposed upon.

A pessimistic prophet in a recent magazine article draws a "oomy picture of the human being of the future—a creature with helpless paws instead of hands. That, it is said, is what we are coming to in this age of machinery, exclaims the New York Tribune. The things our forefathers wrought out with their clever fingers are made in factories now by machines, and as nature revenges herself when a member isn't used by rendering it useless in course of time, the fate of the human hand appears fixed. So good an authority as Sir Frederick Treves, the English physician, declares that people are forgetting how to use their hands, also that hands are becoming not only less dextrous but much less beautiful than in olden times.

The Spelling Bee. While not implying that the Indians are bad spellers, the state superintendent of public instruction believes their spelling can be considerably improved, and with that object in view he has ordered the restoration of the old-fashioned spelling bee in all public schools in the state.

He holds, and many will agree with him, that the best practice in spelling was that obtained by the old method of competitive matches under which pupils once a week or oftener chose sides and engaged in an open battle of "spelling down." Tens of thousands of "grown ups" who cherish tender memories of such contests in their youthful days will unite in the hope that the Indiana venture may be completely successful. Incidentally the public may reasonably expect an improvement in Indiana spelling.

Car Fares in Three Months. According to reports submitted to the Public Service Commission by the transportation lines of the city of New York, residents of the five boroughs paid \$19,215,881.67 in carfare during the last three months of 1909, as against a total of \$17,467,177.21 during the corresponding months of 1908. The Interborough Rapid Transit Company headed the list with a total operating income on both subway and elevated \$6,378,510.78.

The four elevated lines in Manhattan and the Bronx led the single subway line by only \$156,000 during the three months. The Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company had a total income of \$5,135,997 during the three months, and the Metropolitan Company \$3,802,694. All companies showed substantial increases in the number of fares collected.

Was She Logical? The tall, dark girl who is the boss's assistant and who looks as if nectar from a golden goblet were her accustomed beverage went to the office water cooler to quench her thirst. There she found the little stenographer, sleek of hair, trim of waist and plump of shoulder.

"I think," remarked the boss's assistant, by way of being pleasant, while she carefully rinsed the drinking utensil, "that the office might afford a new and unchipped glass for us, don't you? I hate to use this; it never seems clean."

"I don't see," responded the stenographer wonderingly, "why you think it isn't clean. Everybody drinks out of it!"—Tip in the New York Press.

Experiments are being made in Cuba in manufacturing paper from sugar cane fiber. The paper is high grade, and cheaper than it could be made from wood pulp.

The removal of a coat of paint on a canvas in a church at Winkel, Germany, brought to light a valuable painting by Jan van Eyck's pupil, Petrus Christus.